

MARTIN A. DEKKING

JULY 4 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5442]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 5442) for the relief of Martin A. Dekking, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Martin A. Dekking. The bill provides for an appropriate quota deduction and for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 26-year-old native and citizen of the Netherlands who was admitted to the United States on January 29, 1949, as a student. He is taking postgraduate work at Texas Christian University and is also connected with the Panther Oil & Grease Manufacturing Co. of Fort Worth, Tex.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated April 25, 1952, addressed to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

APRIL 25, 1952.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 5442) for the relief of Martin A. Dekking, an alien. The bill would grant the alien permanent residence in the United States.

There is attached a memorandum prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department setting forth the facts in the case.

The record fails to present any facts which would justify the enactment of special legislation granting Mr. Dekking a preference over the many other aliens in the Netherlands and other foreign countries who are remaining abroad and awaiting their regular turns for the issuance of quota immigration visas.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,
Deputy Attorney General.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
SERVICE FILES RE MARTIN A. DEKKING, BENEFICIARY OF H. R. 5442

Mr. Dekking is a native and citizen of the Netherlands who was born on February 17, 1926. He entered the United States at Laredo, Tex., on January 29, 1949, when he was admitted as a student destined to Texas Christian University at Fort Worth, Tex. He had previously entered the United States as a non-immigrant during the years 1946, 1947, and 1948. He has been granted numerous extensions of stay as a student, the last of which will expire on September 22, 1952. He last entered this country at Laredo, Tex., on September 10, 1949, after a brief visit to Mexico.

Mr. Dekking enrolled at Texas Christian University at Fort Worth, Tex., during January of 1949. Prior to that time he had been a student in Texas Wesleyan College at Fort Worth and the University of Tampa at Tampa, Fla. He also attended a university in Clairmont, Calif. He is still attending Texas Christian University, where he is presently taking a postgraduate course in Italian, German, and government. He has already obtained a bachelor-of-science degree in business administration from that university and is presently working toward a master's degree in business administration.

Mr. Dekking, in partnership with a Mr. Jack Housman, operates a small import-export business from which he derives an income of about \$200 per month. Mr. Dekking and his partner are presently importing decorative articles, such as ceramics, but it is their intention to add a line of imported carpets in the near future. Mr. Dekking also draws a pension of about \$200 per year from the Netherlands Government because of injuries sustained while a member of the Dutch Marine Corps. The money from this pension is deposited in a bank in Holland, and in order to obtain it Mr. Dekking has to secure letters from the police department in Fort Worth and state that he needs such money to attend school and live on. Mr. Dekking has no other income. He is not married and he has no dependents. His parents reside in Mexico. His father at one time was a career diplomat for the Netherlands Government and was stationed for a time in Mexico.

The quota for the Netherlands, to which Mr. Dekking is chargeable, is over-subscribed, and an immigration visa is not readily obtainable.

Congressman Frank J. Wilson, the author of the bill, appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and made the following statement:

Mr. Martin A. Dekking, a native of the Netherlands, is approximately 26 years of age and entered the United States at Laredo, Tex., on January 29, 1949, as a student, receiving several extensions. He is now also connected with the Panther Oil & Grease Manufacturing Co. of Fort Worth, Tex., and with Jack Housman, manufacturers' representative of Dallas, Tex. His knowledge, abilities, and understanding of foreign languages and foreign markets make him most valuable to these concerns or anyone in need of his services. A linguist with his experience in all probability could not be replaced in that part of the country by these small businesses, and it would certainly work a hardship on them to lose the services of Mr. Dekking.

I have met this young man personally and have also discussed with a number of citizens of Dallas the problem that would be created by his departure from the United States. I was favorably impressed with his appearance, ability, and attitude in general. Many prominent interested parties have contacted me, and I have here several of the communications received. A review of this correspondence will disclose that the people who know Dekking recommend him highly in his profession and as a prospective citizen. From evidence, his character is above reproach and he is worthy of being considered for permanent residence.

I urge favorable consideration of H. R. 5442 and call attention to a letter and personal data received from Mr. Dekking and a number of other communications in his behalf.

In addition, Congressman Wilson submitted the following letter in support of the bill:

PANTHER OIL & GREASE MANUFACTURING CO.,
Fort Worth, Tex., May 22, 1952.

Hon. J. FRANK WILSON,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. WILSON: Last year you introduced H. R. 5442 in behalf of my friend, Martin A. F. Dekking. Unless this bill passes before July 23, 1952, Martin will have to leave this country and return to Holland.

From my personal observation, he is certainly of the caliber person that is desirable for a United States citizen. I personally feel that his background and his education here in the States would certainly qualify him to become a permanent resident. I've known Martin for some time, and his character is above reproach.

Aside from the fact that Martin would make a good citizen, I realize that there are certain other requirements necessary before a bill of this nature is passed. As an employee, he is valuable. He is doing a remarkable job with the Panther Oil & Grease Manufacturing Co. As you probably know, linguists are very hard to find in this section of the country. Before Martin came, many of our letters written in foreign languages had to go unanswered because we were unable to obtain translations. To lose him at this time would certainly be a hardship on the Panther Co.

Other than being valuable to the Panther Oil & Grease Manufacturing Co., I understand that he's associated with a Mr. Housman of Dallas. He's been working with Mr. Housman on a part-time basis ever since he was a student attending TCU. It is my understanding that he's also indispensable to Mr. Housman's business operation.

It would be to the interest of many Americans that Martin be granted privilege to remain in this country.

Anything that you can do to secure favorable consideration of this bill in getting the committee to refer it to the House is certainly appreciated.

Trust that you are making every effort possible in getting action on this resolution.

Thank you very much for anything you may be able to do on behalf of Mr. Dekking.

Sincerely,

DRAKE BENTHALL,
Assistant Export Manager.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 5442) should be enacted.

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I have written the history of the United States from the point of view of the individual citizen, and I have done so in a way that is both interesting and instructive.

The book is written in a simple, straightforward style, and it is one that I believe will be read with interest and profit by all who are interested in the history of our country.

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